of extention of time for depositing the payment in respect of residential and industrial plots sold in auction upto six months, three months on payment of interest @18 per cent per annum and another three months on payment of interest @24 per cent per annum; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken in this regard and if no decision has been taken so far the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) The correct Resolution No. is 115 & it was passed on the 21st Sept., 1987. This Resolution of Authority was considered in the Ministry and a decision was taken that all such cases involving delay in the payment of balance 75% premium of the bid should be examined on merits and only those cases referred to Ministry for Relaxation of Nazul Rules where the Authority is fully satisfied that such a relaxation is warranted and while forwarding such case(s) detailed justification in very specific terms as to why and how the DDA views the operation of relevant Rules causing undue hardship to the auction purchaser having regard to objects of Delhi Development Act, 1957 should be clearly brought out. This decision of Ministry was conveyed to VC-DDA on 16-12-87.

Setting up of expert Committee for small and medium newspapers

3079. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up an expert Committee to go into the problems being faced by small and medium newspapers in the country;

(b) if so, by when the proposed Committee is likely to be set up;

(c) whether it is a fact that the small and medium newspapers in the country are facing difficulties in getting the newsprint, etc.;

(d) whether the proposed Committee will consider the views of the newspapers; and

(e) the extent to which the small and medium newspapers are likely to be benefited therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) to (e) It is proposed to set up an Expert Committee to go into the problems of small and medium newspapers in the country, shortly. It will go into the major problems facing these newspapers. Some of the issues likely to be referred to the proposed Committee are postal and telecommunication tariffs, financial assistance from nationalised banks, declaration of newspapers as an industry and assistance for modernisation, etc.

The Committee will have members from the newspaper industry also.

As regards newsprint, the Kelkar Committee set up by this Ministry is already evolving a long-term newsprint policy. The representatives of newspaper industry are also members of this Committee.

Recovery of Employees Provident Fund and Insurance dues

3080. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the matter of recovery of arrears of Employees Provident Fund and Employees State Insurance dues in jute mills were discussed at a meeting under the Chairmanship of Labour Minister on 7th July, 1986; and